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NPIC/TSG/RED-185-70
28 July 1970

Declass Review by
NIMA/DOD

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: RED/IEG R&D Program Coordination

1. On 15 July Messrs. [] TSG/RED, visited Messrs. [] IEG/CD, and discussed the subject at [] request. It was apparent that a lot of thought and previous discussion had been carried on in IEG before contacting RED. Typical of [] the concern expressed was on a positive, specific basis--providing RED an excellent opportunity for a mutually beneficial response. The following paragraphs summarize the points we discussed and my initial reactions.

2. The following are citations of specific events recalled by [] which indicate the need for improving the R&D Program Coordination between RED and IEG.

a. Operations Division, TSG. [] has discussed the subject with [] He got the impression that the new Operations Division to be formed in TSG would have some responsibility as far as coordination of the R&D program is concerned. This is news to me. If this is so, I would like to know some definition of their functions in this regard and how they affect or relate to the functions of the Special Assistant for Plans and Applications, RED/TSG.

b. PI Psychophysical Tests. [] pointed out that he and the Chief, IEG are aware of psychophysical tests and test plans for IEG Personnel; however, to his knowledge there is no plan for making this information available to IEG management. At present he is in the dark about existing knowledge resulting from these tests and what are the specific future plans. He wants a system set up for making this information known to IEG management.

c. Applications of Imagery Interpretation Research Reports. [] is aware of the extensive studies and reports that have been accomplished in this area. He wants a list and evaluation of these reports and recommendations concerning their utilization.

d. Ceiling Light Collimation. [] recalls the [] recommendation concerning the use of collimators on ceiling lights and the level of interest and flurry of activity that occurred 18 months or so ago concerning this recommendation. Due to several factors this matter has apparently fallen through the cracks. He would like to have it surfaced and would like to reconsider RED's

SECRET

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e. Digital Image Restoration. [] recalls that he furnished information concerning a number of targets recommended for experimental Digital Image Restoration work some time ago. He says that he has received no further information on this subject and wonders what has transpired since that time.

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h. Automatic Target Recognition. [] is concerned about the purpose of this development program. He feels that devices such as this are of primary interest to IEG, that IEG should have a stated position with respect to such development projects, and that this position should be subject to periodic review and updating. On 15 July 1970 IEG called a meeting of representatives from PPBS, IEG, and PSG to surface their concern on this point and ask PPBS to determine a system whereby the related Center components would be held responsible for awareness, planning, and utilization of equipment developed under the Center R&D program.

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1. Color Analyzer. [] mentioned that he had recently been in the TSG Front Office area and observed a large color TV set there. When he inquired about the color TV set, it was demonstrated to him by [] and shown to have the capability of displaying color slides and also for adjustment of the colors to arbitrary hues and saturations. [] stated IEG would be interested in knowing more about this experiment since this would provide the capability for PIs to specify the color characteristics of their color imagery reproduction orders. I explained to him that our FY-71 R&D program includes a project for the development of such equipment.

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SUBJECT: RED/IEG R&D Program Coordination

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1. IEG Operational Personnel. [] pointed out the need for keeping IEG operational personnel advised about the progress of R&D projects. Since their workload is generally characterized by such short time frames they tend to lose interest in R&D projects which stretch out over long periods of time. Periodic reporting on the nature and progress of these projects in both written and verbal form will help to keep this interest from flagging.

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3. The following are citations of specific suggestions which Mr. [] made for accomplishing coordination of the R&D program with the Imagery Exploitation Group:

a. Written, Descriptive and Status Reports. He proposed that TSG/RED provide IEG with timely written reports which provide the following information:

(1) an index of all the current R&D projects (one line entry) produced on monthly and annual basis.

(2) a brief summary description of all the R&D projects including the name of the project officer, who the R&D effort is for, estimated completion date, if the project is complete--what action was taken, if none why not, etc.

(3) a status report of all the R&D projects including schedules of significant future activity, highlights recent significant achievements and project follow-up or "reminders".

(4) reports defining the extent and schedule of IEG support of human factors projects and the subsequent consequences and recommendations arising from such projects.

b. Verbal Communications. [] pointed out the need for more frequent R&D briefings to be arranged through his office typified by the following requirements:

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(1) R&D program briefings at the beginning of the fiscal year relating all the projects planned for the coming fiscal year.

(2) Individual project briefings prior to proposal invitation.

(3) Proposal review briefings on IEG related development projects.

(4) [] requested a similar detailed briefing program concerning the schedule, status, and description of new collection systems.

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c. IEG R&D Requirements. In response to these increased communications from RED, IEG will in turn make every effort to provide written requirements for R&D support.

4. Observations and Recommendations.

a. R&D Project Descriptions. These can be provided by direct utilization of the project descriptions we have prepared for our own records and for communications to management.

b. Project Status. This information can be reported by machine run directly from the Contract Information System. However, we should be careful not to provide such a massive amount of information that it will discourage true usefulness. I think that we should be especially careful here and that one or two more talks with Mr. [] will provide appropriate guidelines for the scope and depth required for R&D project status reporting to IEG.

c. NPIC Equipment Summary. I believe appropriate IEG personnel should be encouraged to utilize this document--and after they have used it for a while they may have some suggestions on how to improve it so that it will be more suited to their specific requirements for awareness of the nature, cost and schedule of R&D equipment development projects.

d. R&D Newsnotes. I believe the original intent of this document was to communicate the very type of information that [] is most concerned about to IEG personnel. I suggest we review that purpose, and design and utilize this document accordingly. I believe that only more frequent and more inclusive issues are required. The format and the style appear to be right in line. This vehicle should be used also to report on the many items TSG personnel "pick-up" or discover in their travels such as: new on-the-shelf equipment, equipment in development elsewhere and items of "possible interest".

e. Liaison. I suggest establishing regular meetings between TSG/RED/SA/P&A and IEG/OD/C to informally discuss the R&D program and to establish schedules and content of R&D briefings to be given by the corresponding project officer when his project has reached any of the points which would make it noteworthy as far as IEG is concerned.

[]
Special Assistant for Plans & Applications, RED

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